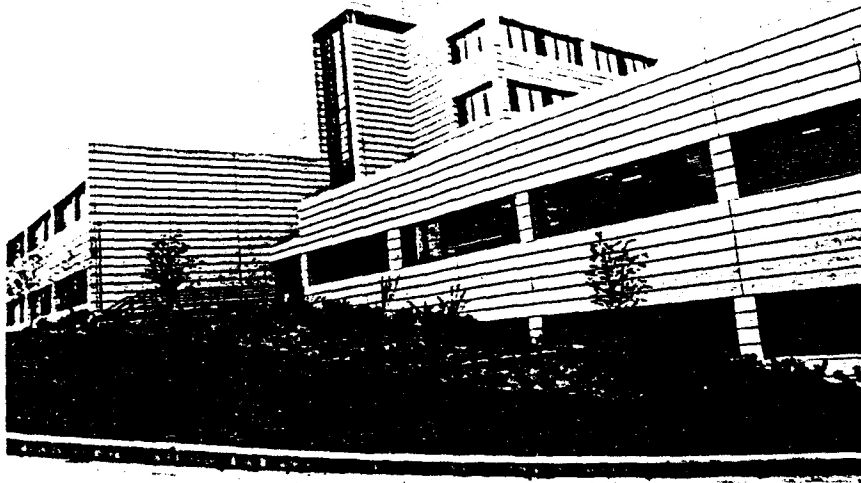


## BERLIN



The ultra-modern new US Army Hospital, Berlin.



(Art by Jean McQuillan)

The picturesque old brick building that first housed the US Army Hospital, Berlin.

## The Berlin MEDDAC

The US Army Hospital, Berlin, has had a colorful and unusual history. The old hospital occupied a compound approximately 20 acres in size, in a quiet residential area in the American sector of West Berlin, surrounded by the Iron Curtain. Its construction was completed in June 1900 and the hospital dedicated later that same month by the late Empress Auguste Victoria of Germany.

In World War I, the German Army took over the facility for treatment and care of its wounded. About 20 years later it was again militarized as the Second World War once again produced battle casualties. This time, the hospital was commandeered by the SS and was accommodating as many as 1000 patients.

In the battle for Berlin, it was partly destroyed and as the city was ravaged, the stately buildings of the hospital were plundered and the staff thrown into confusion. During the time of turmoil immediately following the fall of Berlin, a man named Kilian took charge of the hospital. He was an ex-Nazi obviously hoping to escape detection and arrest by posing as a physician. He later defected to Russia and became a spy for the NKVD, the Soviet Secret Service. The 200 beds in the hospital were occupied mostly by civilians at this time, although a few Russian soldiers were admitted.

In August, 1945, the Americans requisitioned the hospital and began clearing the rubble and refurbishing the physical plant. On September 15, 1945, the first American patients were admitted to the 279th Station Hospital of the US Army.

In July 1963 the idea of a new US Army Hospital, Berlin was conceived and in August 1971 the Embassy in Bonn approved the proposal for building a new hospital to be financed by the German government. There was a great deal of planning done in order to achieve a design which would be acceptable to the German as well as the

US planners, and which would create the most modern treatment facility of the US Army Medical Command here in Europe.

On July 27, 1976 the new US Army Hospital Berlin was dedicated only a stone-throw away from the old building. MG Marshall E. McCabe, USAMEDCOMEUR Commander, and General George S. Blanchard, Commander in Chief, USAREUR, gave the dedicatory addresses. Over 13 years had passed from the time of the initial proposal for construction to the Opening Day Ceremony on Oct 1, 1976. An entire hospital was moved with minimum disruption of patient care.

The mission of the Berlin Medical Department Activity and the US Army Hospital Berlin is to provide the following services. Complete hospitalization and outpatient services, most specialty services, the full spectrum of dental care and limited veterinary care furnished to all military personnel (including Air Force and Navy) and their dependents. In addition; the services are avail-

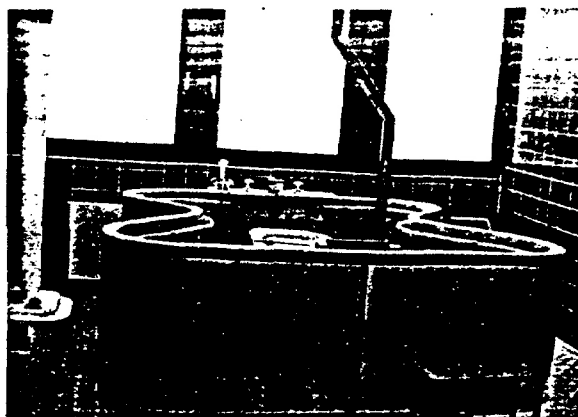
COL Richard E. George, MD, MC, the present hospital commander, is a thoracic surgeon who received his MD degree from Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Ga.



COL Richard E. George, MD, MC



One of the friendly spacious patient waiting areas.



Each treatment area was specially designed to fit its purpose.

able to the Department of State personnel, Department of the Army civilians, their dependents and others as authorized by current regulations and policies. Medical Technical supervision is provided to the Joint Unit Aid Station located at McNair Barracks and staffed by Berlin Brigade. Technical Assistance is also available to the 8071st Labor Service Guard Battalion Dispensary and the Helmstedt Detachment Troop Clinic.

The hospital operates a Drug and Alcohol Detoxification Ward and Urine Consolidation and Collection Point. The total mission of the Berlin MEDDAC includes hospitalization, evacuation, dental service, technical supervision of field medical supplies and equipment, medical maintenance and technical inspections, medical intelligence and operations, preventive medicine and veterinary services.

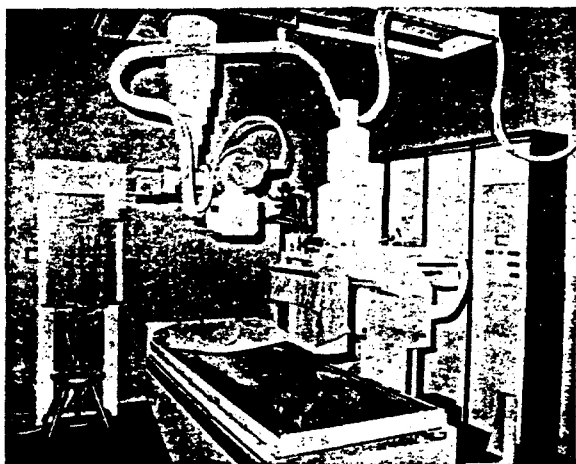
During 1977 the Berlin Hospital registered 2,454 admissions, a daily average of 6.72. There were 92,705 outpatient clinic visits, an average of 7,725 monthly. Average daily bed occupancy was 36.43. The average daily live births were 1.08. Personnel assigned to the

hospital included 173 military and 194 civilians. Twenty-two physicians (including civilians), and 56 nurses (including civilians) rendered patient care.

The Hospital Commander serves in his multiple roles as Commander, Berlin MEDDAC, the US Army Hospital, Berlin, and Surgeon to the US Commander, Berlin. The Commander also has the unique position of being the US Medical Representative to the Allied Prison, Spandau, providing medical and dental support in coordination with the British, French and Soviet physicians through the Quadripartite Medical Committee. The primary mission of this most unique committee is to provide health care to Rudolf Hess, the last prisoner of the Nuernberg War Trials.

*The world must know that we will fight for Berlin. We will never permit that city to fall under Communist influence. We are defending the freedom of Paris and New York when we stand up for Freedom in Berlin.*

*(John F. Kennedy - January 1961.)*



The X-Ray Department, designed and equipped according to newest concepts.



"Maggie" the communication heart for the whole hospital.